A VINDICATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF *CAMBRIDGE.*

In ANSWER

To a Scurrilous Pamphlet, Intituled,

ANIMADVERSIONS *upon the* UNIVERSITY'*s Proceedings against the most Learned* Richard Bentley, *D. D.*

IN WHICH

The Gross Falshoods, Inconsistences, and Blunders of the Author of that Pamphlet are Consider'd, and fully Exposed.

Zach *By a Lover of Truth.* Grey LLD.

LONDON,

Printed for J. ROBARTS, near the *Oxford-Arms* in *Warwick-Lane.* 1722. [Price 4 *d.*]

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OF

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To a Scurrilous Pamphlet, Intitled,

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By a Lover of Truth.

LONDON

Printed for J. Noon, at the Oxford-Arms in Warwick-Lane. 1721. [Price 4 d.]

A VINDICATION OF THE Univerſity of *CAMBRIDGE.*

In ANSWER to a Scurrilous Pamphlet, &c.

THere has lately made its appearance (tho' Long-lived, I prognoſticate, it will not be, the Chandlers, Grocers, Tobacconiſts, and Paſtry-Cooks having by this time, I preſume, lodged their reſpective Claims,) a Pamphlet, Intituled, *Animadverſions upon the Univerſity's Proceedings againſt* Richard Bentley, *D. D.* Which is ſo far from being true to it's Title, that Two-thirds of it at leaſt are impertinent Digreſſions, and the other not much to the Purpoſe. For I deſire to know what relation the Doctrine of the *Trinity*, the *Bangorian* Controverſy, or

Paſſive Obedience, (which tread cloſe upon the heels of each other) have to the Caſe of Mr. *Bentley*? (Doctor he is not, nor will I call him ſo.) And for Denying the Juriſdiction of the Univerſity (in a Caſe ſo obvious and plain) the *Youngſter* juſtly deſerves to be made ſenſible of the Effects of it himſelf. For ſhall every pert Pretender to Wit, who, through the Univerſity's Favour and Indulgence, has obtain'd one Degree more than his Merit entitled him to, take upon him Pragmatically and without Controul, nay, with Impunity too, to Cenſure the laudable Actions of his Superiours? The Piece, to ſpeak no worſe of it, is ſuch a confuſed Medley of Nonſence, Malice, and Ill-Nature, that it tends rather to Expoſe, than Vindicate Mr. *B*-----*y*, and may be reckoned, by comparing any two Paragraphs together, a full Confutation of it ſelf.

But leſt the Author, upon a total Silence, ſhou'd think himſelf Neglected, or, what is worſe, his Pamphlet Unanſwerable, I will venture to throw away one or two [redacted] Hours in conſidering it: And tho', as before intimated, Nonſenſe may be always eſteem'd an Anſwer to it ſelf; will endeavour to Expoſe the Folly, Inconſiſtence, and unparallel'd Impudence of the Libeller. And to begin with his Dedication, which is to *My Lord* knows who, he tells his Patron, whether real or imaginary, I'll not take upon me to gueſs, *That were his Capacity of Serving him as great as his Wiſhes, as large as his Soul, there cou'd be no additional Happineſs on this ſide the Grave.* Which is modeſt and conciſe enough; that is, in other words, Had I more Brains, and more Money, and your Lordſhip leſs, I ſhould think my ſelf the Happieſt Man on Earth, and ſhould be proud of Serving your Lordſhip: But ſince I have neither Money nor Brains, I hope you will conſider

P. 5.

me;

me; and tho, you can't poſſibly make any addition to one, yet, you may, by Preferment, ſomewhat encreaſe the other. But to paſs over the remainining part of his Dedication, which is plentifully ſtored with Nonſence, I will proceed to the Conſideration of ſome Particulars in the Pamphlet, where he tells us, *That a* Scribendi Cacoethes, *like a Dreadful Plague, as Terrible in its Advances, but more ſo in its Conſequences, hath moſt lamentably infected this Nation.* All this is true, and his own Libel may be brought in as an Inſtance to prove it: For what can be a greater Plague for the time, than the peruſal of a Pamphlet, which has not three Lines of good Sence, but what are pyrated from other Mens Works, which may prove a meer Drug to the Publiſher, with whom I'll leave him to divide the Loſs and Gain; and yet am convinced, that upon the fulleſt Computation, (now the Pamphlet is become Bankrupt) the Compoſition to the Bookſeller will not amount to Half-a-Crown in the Pound, and paſs on. He next, by an eaſy Tranſition, ſteps from the Preſs, to Compliment the Worthy Dr. *Waterland*, whoſe Merit is very much out of the reach, and conſequently much ſuperiour to the Praiſes of ſuch a Puny Scribler. P. 1. P. 2.

But what has the Character of that Great and Learned Man to do in *Bemley*'s Caſe? Will Dr. *Waterland*'s ſuperiour Worth, entitle the much leſs deſerving Mr. *B——y* to the ſame ſhare of Praiſe from the Learned World? Had he indeed, uſed that little Learning he is Maſter of, to as valuable Purpoſes as the other, his Praiſes might probably have riſe in Proportion. The *Bangorian* Controverſy comes next upon the Stage; but, like every thing elſe, 'tis dragg'd in by head and ſhoulders: which demonſtrates a great

Strengrh,

Strength, tho' not an overflowing of Brains in the Pamphleteer: He tells us, *That it is laid*
P. 3. *asleep, by the Unanswerable Writings of Dr.* Hare, *Mr.* Stebbing, *and Mr.* Rogers. He shou'd have said *Doctor Rogers*: (For tho' the University can both give, and take away Degrees, yet this Scribler has no Authority to do either.) But this is quite out of the Question, and nothing at all to the Purpose.

He tells us, *He is really shocked, when he*
P. 4. *finds Insipid Discourses countenanced, and authorized by Great Names.* And so am I too, when I find so Dull and Stupid a Piece, with the Name of a Lord prefix'd to its Dedication.

In the next Page, He *promises to return*
P. 5. *to his Subject, having wandred so far from it.* And high-time it is, I think; for the Digression is somewhat too great for the Compass of such a Scribble. He first makes an Excursion to the Press, (against the Liberty of which he loudly declaims.) His next step is, to wait on Dr. *Waterland* in *Warwick-Court*, with a stupid Compliment upon his Writings. From thence he vouchsafes to call on Dr. *Hare*, in his Residence near St. *Paul's*; and of Dr. *Rogers* in *Clare-Market*; and from thence he trips into *Suffolk*, to make a Compliment to Mr. *Stebbing*: And all this not half a Morning's Work. In my opinion, he wou'd have made a more proper Running-Footman to his Lord, than Advocate for the Master of his College.

But to let that pass: In the next place, he
P. ib. informs us, *That it is not his business to enter into the Merits of the Cause.* That I believe too. But if it was otherwise, and he was authorized for the Purpose never so much, he has not sufficient Capacity to do it. And yet the *Fool*, for all this, will be meddling, and pragmatically intruding

into

into other Men's Buſineſs. For he gives us to underſtand, in the next place, *That the Caſe is in other Peoples hands*, viz. *the greateſt Lawyers*; *and ſhou'd the Univerſity proceed in their Summons, will, in all probability, be ſhortly determin'd to their laſting Shame and Diſgrace.* The Learned Members of the Univerſity are better acquainted with the common Forms of Law, than to Proceed in a Caſe, whilſt 'tis under Prohibition from the Temporal Courts. But whatſoever may be the Iſſue of this Affair, he is highly Preſumptuous, in pretending to determine how the Courts of *Weſtminſter* will act in a Caſe, where the Rights and Privileges of ſo Learned and Great a Body of Men are concerned. That the Univerſity has a Right to Cenſure its Members, (when Excentrick, and acting out of the compaſs of their own proper ſphere) I think is undeniable: But how this Affair of Mr. *B--t--y's* will end, I will not (like this ſaucy Scribler) take upon me to determine. P. ib.

He lets us know, *That he has heard a Councellour openly pronouncing, that there is ſcarce an Inſtance upon Record to be found, of a Proceeding more Illegal, more Arbitrary, nay, more Unjuſt, in ſo Happy and Peaceable a Reign.* And, this is but one Council's Opinion; and one Swallow, he can't but know, will not make a Summer: But this Council, as he calls him, I will preſume for once, is no Council, tho' a Dabler in Law in a double Capacity, and he is always too ſanguine, let the Caſe be as it will, ever to be much depended upon. But allowing for once, that he was really a Councillour, who determined ſo poſitively in this Caſe, he might be but a *puiſné* one, who (agreeably to the Spectator) might have made a good *Figure* upon a Hackney-Coach at *Temple-Bar*, or Waterman at *Temple-Stairs*. Nay, admitting farther, that he might be a Councellour, P. ib.

and

and well verſed in his Profeſſion; yet he can't be reckon'd the moſt Prudent, in determining ſo poſitively, upon hearing but one ſide of the Queſtion, and that, probably, upon the partial Repreſentation of a *Man*, who does not always ſpeak what is exactly agreeable to the ſtrict Rules of Truth. Nay, ſuppoſing this was his real Senſe of the Matter, 'tis juſt nothing to the Purpoſe: For I have heard a Perſon well skilled in the Law, throughly acquianted with the Caſe in diſpute, declare his Opinion to be the reverſe of this: ſo we have one Lawyer's Opinion to ſet againſt another, and the Caſe will remain juſt as it did before.

But to examine the Opinion of this Council a little farther; Is there any Illegality in the Univerſity's putting it's Statutes in execution? If they are a Society, (which is what this Gentleman, I preſume, will not deny) tho' they had no Statutes at all, the very Nature of a Society, implies a Power ſufficient for it's own Protection, and Preſervation: And if the thing be Legal, (as I conceive it is) this Councel gave his Opinion raſhly, and very wide of the Queſtion. A moſt Infamous Libel is publiſh'd; Mr. *B——y* is ſuppoſed not to be wholly unacquainted with the Author; he is ſummon'd (by thoſe who have a Legal Right to do it) to give Evidence in the Caſe. (Whether the Contempt of the Juriſdiction comes within the compaſs of the King's moſt Gracious Pardon, is not my Buſineſs to determine.) And this is what has occaſion'd ſuch an Outcry *of Illegal, and Arbitrary Proceedings, in ſo Peaceable a Reign.* But how does all this tend to the Breach of the Peace, or Diſturbance and Diſquiet of the preſent moſt Peaceable Reign? If it does not tend to any thing like it, (as I am confident 'tis beyond the Skill of the Perſon ſo affirming, to prove) he is a trifling Caviller, and unworthy of having the leaſt ſhadow of an Argument thrown away upon him.

He

He tells us in the very next Page, *That he is loth to give Offence?* But what has he been doing all this while? Does the calling the Univerſity's Proceedings againſt ſuch an Incendiary, (Pardon the Expreſſion) Illegal, Arbitrary, and Unjuſt, contain nothing Offenſive in it? The Terms, doubtleſs, muſt be *Inoffenſive*, in the Mouth of a Perſon, who, after ſo much Billingſgate, puts on the Countenance of a Whore at a Chriſtning, wipes his Mouth, and pretends to be Innocent. They are indeed as Harmleſs and Inoffenſive as the Impudent Author of them, who, tho' he tells us, in the *Dedication*, he has a *Large Soul*: Yet, as Large as it is, (to borrow a homely Expreſſion from an Ingenious (a) Author) I am convinced, "That a Louſe with her ſhort Legs may "fathom the depth of his Underſtanding." P. 6.

The Vice-Chancellor (he gives us to underſtand) *is a Man of little Action, and leſs Thought than the other.* Meaning, I ſuppoſe, Doctor *Gooch*. And will not this (if true) redound very much to the Advantage of his *good* Maſter? If the Caſe ſtands thus, what occaſion had B——y to remove his Cauſe into the Temporal Courts? A Perſon ſo well verſed in Quirks and Subtilty, of ſuch ſuperiour Skill and Abilities, by his own excellent Management, might have ventured to have fought *ſuch* a Vice-Chancellour at his own Weapon; and by the Aid and Aſſiſtance of this *Daring Garretteer*, and the reſt of his Auxiliaries, might have baffled and foiled him ev'n in his own Courts. But the Vice-Chancellor is not ſuch a tame Fool as repreſented; is not to be frightned with Big Words from a Scribbler, of *having the Univerſity's Character taken away*; of *being committed to the High-Sheriff, or his* P. 7.

P. 11.

(a) Baynard on Cold Baths.

proper Officers; or at leaſt, of *being caſt into the* Fleet-*Priſon*: (Terms, 'tis odds, the *Writer* does not underſtand the meaning of.) For did ever ſo much Ignorance and Impudence (unleſs in the Villainous Libel which has raiſed ſo much Duſt) proceed from the Pen of any One, in the compaſs of ſo few Lines? He ſeems juſtly to have merited the Fate (to which he is deſirous of dooming his Adverſaries) by prejudging a Cauſe undetermined in the Place where 'tis now by Prohibition removed. But the Vice-Chancellour, I can aſſure him, is a Perſon of ſuperiour Worth, and Abilities; not *the Man of little Action, and leſs Thought*, which he takes him to be. Of which I hope he'll be convinced from his *own Experience* in a little time.

And to paſs over ſome of his Ribaldry, with which he is plentifully furniſhed from the Writings of a *certain Perſon*, he tells us, *He is falling upon a more pleaſing Subject, His Majeſty's Bounty to the Univerſity of* Cambridge; *a Ray of Genereſity worthy only the Greateſt and Beſt of Princes.* His Majeſty's Great Character, and Tranſcendent Goodneſs to the Univerſity, I think no Body pretends to diſpute with him; for my part, I don't. But how is His Majeſty's Character concerned in this Affair? Becauſe His Majeſty is Good and Gracious; Does it follow, by a natural Deduction, or juſt Conſequence, that Mr. *B——y*, his Chaplain, is ſo too? Or, has he the Steel'd Forehead, to ſay, That His Majeſty's and Mr. *B——y*'s Intereſts are ſo attach'd to each other, that they can't ſubſiſt ſeparately? If not; How comes His Majeſty to be concerned in it? who wiſhes, I dare ſay, that grievous Offenders may be brought to condign Puniſhment. How then does he prove this an act of Diſobedience to His Majeſty? I beg, that by Advertiſement, he will clear it up: His

P. ib.

Book

Book (I give him my Word for it) will never come to a Second Impreſſion. Nay, the greateſt Kindneſs his Friends can poſſibly do him, is, to buy up the whole Impreſſion and burn it, in order to ſave the ſinking Credit of a young *pretended* Critick, and to prevent his being farther Expoſed.

The Truth, he informs us, *he muſt not conceal, tho' he is unwilling to proclaim it.* P. 8.

He need not, I think, be under any Reſtraint in this Matter, provided he ſpeaks Truth, which will never be aſhamed of it ſelf.

Have they not conſpired to Expell the moſt ſhining Ornament that Univerſity, England, *or the Learned World ever enjoyed?* P. ib.

Oh, horrid and hard to be forgotten Conſpiracy! *Tell it not in Gath, publiſh it not in the ſtreets of Askalon, leſt the Philiſtines rejoyce*, &c. But, after all, why ſo laviſh of your Maſter's Praiſes, good Sir, who is ſufficiently able to trumpet them himſelf, without any of your Help. I fear there is an old Proverb which you have a little intrench'd upon, "There's None ſo Good, but "he has his Fellow." But I'll leave you, and the good Old Women (the uſual Defenders of Proverbial Sayings) to diſpute this Matter; only wiſh you had entred into a Detail of your Maſter's Praiſes, that I might either have ſubſcrib'd to, or deny'd them. As to his Humility, and Condeſcending Temper, thoſe are too notorious to ſtand in need of a Comment. His great Skill and Abilities in the Critick Art, have (very much to his Diſcredit) been lately controverted. And as to his Behaviour as Governour of a College, I will not pretend to call it in queſtion, knowing of what a *Peaceable Diſpoſition* he is, ev'n at a time when the Law is open. He makes this a Queſtion, in the ſame Paragraph, *Whether King* William, *in conferring the Maſterſhip of* Trinity *upon* P. ib.

B——y, *or His Present Majesty, in bestowing the famous Library upon the University, did the University the most Honour?* And is this to be made a Question of at this time of day? I can tell him, If *both* these *Favours* were yet unconferred, and the Choice was left wholly to the University, how the Matter wou'd be determin'd. The Question, in short, is this; Whether the King's Library, or the *Courteous, Humane, Affable*, and *Good-Natur'd Royal Librarian*, may be esteem'd of the more signal Service to the University? I have, in my opinion, determined the Point; which I shall not communicate, for fear of incurring the Displeasure of so Great a Man, and his *formidable* Crew of Aiders and Abettors.

P. 9. *For all this*, we are told, *the University have proceeded in their first unhappy Resolve.* For all what? The Gift of the Library: Sure, the Bold *Scribbler* will not pretend to insinuate, that it was given, to stop the Mouths and Proceedings of the University, against the disputed Blessing, Mr. B——y.

P. 10. *I don't include under the Name of the* University, *Half the Members, much less every Individual.* True; a Mathematician to the Trinity Ladies cou'd have inform'd him, that One Half, much less the Smaller Half, cou'd never pretend, without a good Stock of Assurance, to make the Whole. But to let that pass: He might very well, I think, have abated ev'n of the Number of his own side of the Question. For, excepting a few *Creatures* of his own College, (and the Pamphleteer for one) who have an Implicit Faith in this Great Man, or at least, are implicitly Obedient to his Will and Commands, he will scarce find One in the University, (excepting *One* of a very *odd Mixture* and *Complexion* indeed) who has not condemned the Man, and his Manners.

From the Character of this Great Man, he proceeds, and launches out in his Invectives againſt the Univerſity, for defending its Rights; which he maliciouſly ſtyles, *a perſecuting Spirit*; P. 10. which *he hopes His Majeſty, out of his Exemplary Goodneſs, will check, and correct.* Good Mr. Scribbler, give me leave to tell you, That it is highly Impertinent, nay, Preſumptuous in you, to direct His Majeſty how to diſpenſe his Favours or Puniſhments. But to paſs that over: Had this Pamphleteer the leaſt Shame, Modeſty, or Fear in his Compoſition, he wou'd be afraid of acting againſt his own Conſcience at the rate he does. But I will leave it to his own Judgment, (which, upon his more deliberate Thoughts, muſt determine againſt him) whether he has not intrenched upon an Oath taken upon his firſt Admiſſion into the Univerſity: And I hope the Vice-Chancellor will proceed in his known Right of Puniſhing the Demerits of *ſuch a Perſon*, who, I humbly conceive, is out of the Protection of the late *Act of Grace*.

He proceeds from Inſulting, to *kindly Adviſing the Univerſity, not to proceed in the like manner a ſecond time.* P. ib. Which is as much as to ſay, Tho' I Inſult and Abuſe you never ſo much, I adviſe you, as you value your own Peace and Quiet, to let me paſs with Impunity. Which is highly Inſolent indeed: For had the Affair been already determined (as I perceive it is not) againſt the Univerſity, and in favour of Mr. *B——y*, 'tis no buſineſs of his to Inſult the Univerſity at the rate he does. But I leave this to their own Defence, and will paſs on to the Conſideration of the remaining part of the Libel.

From *B——y*'s Affair, he digreſſes in an idle and extravagant manner, and falls foul upon the Doctrine of *Paſſive Obedience*, and *Non-Reſiſtance*, and ſays, *He can't learn what theſe Men drive* P. 11.

at:

at: His opinion is, That they argue for an Unlimited Power in the Prince; a Power (Horreſco referens) *of Enſlaving, Deſtroying,* pro Arbitrio, *their Subjects.* This is excellent Argument, and might paſs with a Sett of the holy Whining Siſterhood, at a Fanatical Meeting, who with the Whites of their Eyes turn'd up, and ſeveral deep Sighs groan'd forth, wou'd declare, that they never heard ſo admirable a Confuter of this horrid Doctrine. But to conſider the extraordinary Conſiſtence of this, with ſome other Paragraphs, he tells us before, That the Univerſity are acting in Diſobedience to His Majeſty; and yet here, are endeavouring to make Him as Great, and Independent upon his Subjects, as poſſible. But how is this conſiſtent? Sure, ſuch Stuff never came under the Conſideration of the Great *B——y*, or ev'n his eminent Council; otherwiſe, the one, with a ſmall ſhare of Criticiſm, wou'd have told him, That this was a downright Contradiction; the other, with as ſmall a ſhare of Law, That it wou'd not paſs either for Law or Equity in the Courts of *Weſtminſter*. Nay, had ſuch Inconſiſtent Stuff been offer'd by way of Argument in the Schools, the Auditors wou'd have exploded it, and its Author wou'd have been made a Jeſt, and ſtanding Subject of Ridicule to Poſterity.

From hence he proceeds (in his manner) to the Conſideration of the Doctrine of *Paſſive Obedience*, (as remote from the Subject in Diſpute, as *Trinity-College* from *Weſtminſter-Hall*, or, rather as the *North* and *South* Poles from each other) and tells us of a Sermon upon this Subject, preached at *Cambridge* the laſt 30th of *January*, *which was ſuch a Medley, as in a manner put to the Bluſh ſeveral of the Auditors.* But to paſs by his new-coin'd Diſtinction of, *putting to the Bluſh*, and, *in a manner putting to the Bluſh*; How came it to paſs, that a Sermon upon ſuch a Subject, ſhou'd, in a manner, *put any* of the Auditors to the

Bluſh?

Bluſh? Was not the Subject ſuitable to the Occaſion? or, Was it not proper to ſtigmatize the Principles which brought the Royal Martyr to the Block? or, Were they *in a manner* put to the Bluſh, as a ſign of Grace, and a Concern, that the Miſcreants their Fore-Fathers were a Pack of ſuch abandon'd Villains? or, Were they rather ſome Fanatical Interlopers, who came along with the Pamphleteer as Spyes upon the Preacher? When he has ſatisfied me in one or all of theſe Queries I'll conſider the Matter a little farther, and not till then.

He ſpends upon the Preacher two whole Pages, and then wiſhes, Mr *Lock* was more ſtudied, and Sir *Robert Filmer* leſs. Excellent Connexion! What has Non-reſiſtance, the Preacher on the 30*th* of *January*, *Lock*, or Sir *Robert Filmer*, to do with the Caſe now depending in *Weſtminſter-Hall?* or indeed, with one another? But from this large Digreſſion, he has another fling at the Vice-Chancellour, and tells us, (tho' I ſhould be loth to take his Word for it) *That he has evinced himſelf to be as Ridiculous as Malicious, in refuſing to Licenſe a Commemoration Sermon preach'd in* Trinity-Chapel. And this he gives as the Reaſon of it, *That* Dr. *Bentley is favourably mentioned.* But for what Reaſon does he think ſo? I am pretty confident the Vice-Chancellour was too cautious of declaring any ſuch thing to him, or his Friends. From this he goes on, in his uſual way of connecting things, to Dr. *Gooch*, and has the Aſſurance to make a Speech for him. So much Nonſence joyned together in a School-Boy's Declamation, would have entitled him to a good Number of Stripes. But I will leave the Worthy Gentleman reflected on, to reckon with him on that Accompt, and will proceed to what he ſays of the Choice of the Worthy and Learned Dr. *Middleton* into the *Librarian*'s Place.

P. 14.

P. 15.

P. 15.

Was

P. 18. *Was there ever a more Diſloyal Action heard of, at a more Unſeaſonable Time, when they are begging Subſcriptions for a Theatre?* Don't let your Paſſion out-run your Reaſon, *Worthy Sir.* To whom was this Diſloyalty? To his High and Mightineſs *Richard B——y*, I ſuppoſe; (His Majeſty, I'm ſure can't be brought within the Queſtion,) tho' he makes his utmoſt Efforts to bring him in by Head and Shoulders; But we'll ſuppoſe, for once, (what reaſonably can't be ſuppoſed) that the Diſloyalty is meant to His Majeſty; But how does he make it out? Is Dr. *Middleton* a ſworn Enemy to the Perſon or Government of his Majeſty? If he aſſerts the Affirmative, we ſhall call upon him to prove it in another Place. If he diſowns it, (as he needs muſt) his Reflection is Unjuſt, Ridiculous, Nonſenſical, and Ill-natur'd; and ſhews him to be fitter for a Dark Room, and Clean Straw, than to have any Arguments thrown away upon him.

But the Aggravation is ſtill behind: The beſtowing

P. 18. ſuch a Place upon *Middleton*, as he calls him without the Stile or Title of Doctor, *who had been a Source of the Univerſity's Differences, by his Hodge-podge of Prefaces, and Prolegomena.* Why ſo familiar, good Sir? You would take it amiſs, to have the Title your Degree gives you, ſaucily taken away by a pert Freſh-man: Who then gave you a Right to Undoctor this Worthy Gentleman? To tell you, your Aſſertion is a Lye, would border too much upon Ill-Manners to a Perſon who *has a great Soul*, and might probably reſent it; but that you labour under a very great Miſtake, Mr. *Animadverter*, I am very confident. What! was Dr. *Middleton* the Source of the Univerſity's Difference with Dr. *B——y*? I'll put the Caſe in another light, and (ſtupid as you are) will leave it to your own Determination. Pardon me, if I don't call it an exact Parallel; for I know who

lays

lays always upon the Catch, and is willing to take all Opportunities of Cruſhing his Adverſaries. A Man, by Subtilty and Over reaching, impoſes a direct Cheat upon me; I, in a Lawful manner, endeavour to regain my Right: I beg to know, whether He or I may properly be called *the Source* of the Difference? But what relation, after all, have the *Prefaces* and *Prolegomena* (as you call them) to the firſt Matter in diſpute? There's nothing but the height of Prejudice, mix'd with an equal ſhare of Folly, cou'd, ev'n in this Matter, have engaged you to determine ſo poſitively in favour of *B——y*. As good, nay much better Judges than your Self, or Principals, (tho' you claim Acquaintance with a Lord, and a (juſtly deſpiſed) Critick,) have differ'd from you in this Point, by declaring, That Dr. *Middleton* has proved him Incapable of ſuch an Undertaking, from the Propoſals; and has as fully confuted the Defence of them, which is the moſt Infamous, Malicious, and Scandalous Libel (againſt the Worthieſt of Men) that ever was Penn'd, or had the Aſſurance to appear in Print.

His Modeſty (he tells us) *requires, that he ſhould paſs over the* Duæ Epiſtolæ; *having read over, with no ſmall Pleaſure and Profit, his Patron's Reflexions upon them.* Oh, Inſupportable Impudence! that a Retailer of Ribaldry, after he has ſpent his Virulence for near 20 Pages together, ſhou'd cry out, *that his Modeſty wou'd not permit him to do ſuch a thing*, is ſtrange and unaccountable. If he, after all, can pretend to lay claim to the leaſt ſhare of that commendable Quality, the moſt proſtitute Strumpet upon Earth, may not, I think, deſpair of a Title to it. The Two Epiſtles (he here makes mention of) claim for their Author a very Worthy Perſon, into the detail of whoſe Praiſes at preſent I ſhall forbear to enter; they are Critical Remarks upon ſome

P. 19.

of Mr. *Bently*'s Writings: And for a Perſon not the leaſt verſed in Criticiſm, who can't lay claim to the Title of ſo much as a *green Critick*, (according to the Diſtinction of an Ingenious (*a*) Author) tho' bred up at the feet of One who eſteems himſelf a *Gamaliel*; for him, I ſay, to nibble at what he does not underſtand, is not a little ſurprizing.

The next thing he vouchſafes to honour with his Notice, relates to Univerſity Degrees; in which he informs us from a *Correſpondent from Cambridge*, (tho' he is there himſelf all the while,) *That of above an Hundred that commenced* Batchelors of Arts, *not above One-Third had a reaſonable Claim or Title thereto.* I'll allow him here to ſpeak at large, (as he moſt commonly does;) but I beg to know, who is to be Judge of the Capacity, or proper Qualifications of the Candidates for Degrees; a buſy Intermedler in what does no ways appertain to him, or the proper Examiners appointed by the Univerſity for that Purpoſe? Or, Has the Affair of Degrees been neglected ſince *B——y* has been a *Non-Ens* in the Univerſity? If this is what he quarrels at, I excuſe him; and will aſcribe what he ſays, to an ebullition of Zeal for the Perſon from whom he is an humble Expectant of a ſuitable Reward.

P. 23.

They wou'd do well to conſider, That in conferring Degrees, which ought to be ſo many Badges of Honour, they countenance and encourage Negligence, Ignorance, or ſomething worſe than both. 'Tis probable, that once or twice, by chance, they have done ſo, a flagrant Inſtance of which we have before us in the *Animadverter* himſelf; ſo we can't poſitively deny that the Charge

P. 24.

(*a*) Tale of a Tub.

has

has not, ſometimes, been true: But, generally ſpeaking, I am confident, No Body of Learned Men can be more Cautious of falling into an Errour of this kind.

But to ſum up the Whole of what he has ſaid, in ſhort; in order, at one View, to diſcover to the Reader, the Conſiſtence of our Author's Title with his Pamphlet, and of our Author with Himſelf.

He undertakes, in his Title-Page, to Vindicate *Richard Bentley*, D. D. *from the Proceedings of the Univerſity againſt him.* He ſets out modeſtly enough in the firſt place, and with one daſh of his Pen, reſtores the Great Man to a Degree of which the Univerſity had deſervedly deprived him. But to paſs by that, he tells us, *Dr.* Waterland *is a Celebrated and Valiant Champion of the Chriſtian Faith.* P. 2. Thank him for nothing, for that we very well knew before.

That he ſhall ſay nothing of the Bangorian *Controverſy, which has been happily laid aſleep, by the Unanſwerable Writings of Dr.* Hare, *Mr.* Stebbing, *and Mr.* Rogers. P. 3. This is no Secret, I aſſure him, whatever he may think of the Matter.

Which Controverſy had its Riſe from the ſtrong Imagination of that Ingenious Prelate. P. ib. This is more than he can be aſſur'd of, tho' it is not improbable.

Thus far I ſhou'd have thought that he had ſet up for a Judge of Controverſies: But in the next Page but one, he owns a Digreſſion, and at once forfeits his Claim to Infallibility: He tells us, P. 5. *It is not his Buſineſs to enter into the Merits of the Cauſe; 'tis under the Conſideration of the greateſt Lawyers.* P. ib. And I wiſh, for his own Credit, he had left it there; but, for all this, he can't forbear Cenſuring his Betters.

P. 6. Yet, at the ſame time, he tells us, *He is loath to give Offence*; when with the ſame breath, he calls the Vice-Chancellor, *an Unthinking Perſon*; *a Man of little Action, and leſs Thought.*

But in the next Page, (tho' he has been too great a Medler already) he endeavours to lick himſelf whole, and tells us, *That he forbears:* *A Reconci-*

P. 7. *liation of Differences being all that he aims at.* Oh, the extraordinary Charity of a *Bentleyan!* From hence he proceeds to His Majeſty's Benefaction, and *wonders at the Univerſity's Diſloyalty to Him*; and tells us, *That it is a Diſputable Point, whether this Benefaction of Books from His Preſent Majeſty, or Mr.* Bentley's *Promotion to the Maſterſhip of* Trinity *by King* William, *was the greater Bleſſing to the Univerſity.* From whence he proceeds to ſhew, *what Tendency the preſent Affair of the Univerſity has, toward encouraging Arbitrary Power in a Prince:* Informs us, *That Biſhop* Atterbury *has been quoted, as Patron of this Shocking, this Bloody, this Popiſh Doctrine.* But why ſo Haſty? I have good reaſon to think it a Doctrine of the Church of *England*; and the contrary one, of Reſiſtance, (which has once, he has been told, proved the Doctrine of King-Killing) to have been firſt hatch'd in a Popiſh Conclave.

That at one ſtroke, we have heard a

P. 12. *Preacher at St.* Mary's, *laſt* 30*th of* January, *enthralling Mankind to the Sovereign's Pleaſure; whoſe ſtrange Criticiſm upon the Text, called to his mind, what he heard related of one of the preſent Moderators, who aſſerted,* (it ſhou'd have been, *furmized*, if he'll ſpeak properly) *That, poſſibly, Civil Empire aroſe neither from God, nor Man. He heartily wiſhes that Mr.* Lock *may be re read more, and Sir* Robert Filmer *leſs.* Then, I ſuppoſe, we might expect that all wou'd be Quiet and Eaſy from *Dan* ev'n to *Beerſheba.*

There

There was a Commemoration-Sermon P. 15.
preach'd in Trinity-Chapel, *which the Vice-Chancellor refuſed to Licenſe, (after conſulting with* Dr. Laney, *and* Dr. Gooch, *becauſe it ſpoke favourably of Mr.* B——y. *That* Dr. Gooch *made a Speech, recommending* Middleton *to the Univerſity for a Place: which was a Diſloyal and Unheard-of Action, when they were begging Subſcriptions for a Theatre; And, That* Dr. Middleton *had been a Source of the Univerſity's Differences. That his Modeſty made him paſs over Mr.* Peirce's *Two Epiſtles againſt* B——y: *But he read with Pleaſure his Patron's Reflexions upon them. That he had read an Account from a Friend in the Univerſity, (*where he was himſelf all the while,*) that the late Batchelours Degrees were undeſervedly conferred; not one part in three of the Commencers deſerving them. That the Univerſity, in conferring Degrees, encouraged Negligence, Idleneſs, and ſomething worſe than both.*

And is not this excellent Connexion, and the Perſon worthy to be an Advocate for the *Great and Illuſtrious* Bentley? And may ſuch a Cauſe always meet with ſuch an Advocate to defend it. The Man ſhews his Good-will, tho' his Abilities are far from coming up to it. And ſhall ſuch a Writer, with Impunity, be let looſe upon ſuch a Learned Body of Men? Shall not ſo much Inſolence, mixed with ſo much Malice, be animadverted upon in another way? Indeed, the Libel in it ſelf is not very formidable: But then ſo much Nonſence joyned with ſo much Malice, juſtly merits its deſerved Puniſhment. For how Ill wou'd it look, in the Eye of the World, (which is too apt to judge by Appearances) if ſuch a Venerable Body ſhould tamely ſubmit to be Bully'd by ſuch an Infamous Fourth-Rate Scribler, much fitter to write for a *Sunday*'s-Dinner to the Hawkers in *Grub-Street*, than in the Defence *of the moſt ſhining Ornament that ever* England,

land, *or the Learned World enjoy'd, or could boaſt of?* There is equal Juſtice (it muſt be granted) adminiſtred in the Courts of *Weſtminſter*, and their Judges are preſum'd to be Men of the ſtricteſt Honour and Probity, and not to be byaſs'd by the Crafty Inſinuations of an old Pretender to *Criticiſm*, or the Quirks and Subtle Diſtinctions of more Crafty Lawyers; or warped by Prejudice againſt the Beſt of Cauſes, and moſt Worthy Defenders of it. —— It has been generally inſinuated, that the Diſturbances in his own College, proceeded from no other *Source* but himſelf, from his own Attempts to govern without Controul, and in a manner ſomewhat too Arbitrary, and not the moſt agreeable to the College Statutes: But whether it was really ſo, or not, is not my Buſineſs to determine. He has likewiſe been ſaid, to have attempted an Infringement of the Univerſity's Rights, (and I fear, with too much Reaſon;) but, to their Eternal Honour be it ſpoken, the Worthy Members thereof had too much Courage, to ſuffer ſuch a Perſon (not the very beſt Governour of a College, much leſs the fitteſt Perſon to govern an Univerſity) to break in upon their known Rights and Privileges.

But to Conclude: I Having now done with my Pamphleteer; having given a full Anſwer to every thing that has been urged by him; Material, I can't properly call it, becauſe, there is ſcarce one Syllable in his Book that deſerves that Title; For I take him to be a bad Writer, and not the beſt of Men; and tho' his Pamphlet is ſo indifferently contrived, as not to be capable of doing much Miſchief, or impoſing upon the weakeſt Minds, and on that Account not deſerving any Animadverſions in this way: yet if nothing had been ſaid in Reply, the wiſe Author wou'd have triumphed in his Inſolence, and gloried in his Shame. If I have treated him with Contempt

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in ſome Places, and Severity in others, I will appeal to the common Senſe of every Impartial Reader, whether the overflowing of Nonſence in almoſt every Line, will not juſtify the Former; and, whether the moſt bitter Calumnies, and an Attempt to *ſap* the very Foundations of the Univerſity's Rights and Privileges, does not juſtly deſerve the Latter. If I have not made out my Allegations, I will beg his Pardon: If I have, he ought to beg Pardon of the Univerſity, of every individual Member of it upon whom he has thrown the leaſt Aſperſion, nay, of every other Perſon who has been ſubject to the ſhort Penance of reading his Book. And I am ſure, 'till he has ſo done, no Stile can be too ſevere for him; he ought to be treated, not like a Gentleman, but as a Common Enemy to all Goodneſs, and Good Manners.

FINIS.

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